

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06595 111745Z
ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7546

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP (SOMMER, THEO), GW
SUBJECT: THEO SOMMER INTERVIEWS WITH US OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 092203

1. WE HAVE INFORMED THEO SOMMER THAT THE SECRETARY CANNOT SEE HIM. HE REGRETS, BUT WISHES TO PURSUE WASHINGTON CONVERSATIONS ANYWAY. HE LOOKS FORWARD TO SEEING DR. BRZEZINSKI.

2. SOMMER ALSO ASKED IF HE COULD STILL HAVE A CHANCE TO HAVE AN INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT. AS THE DEPARTMENT MAY RECALL, THIS HAD BEEN HIS ORIGINAL INTEREST, AND HE FELT IT MIGHT BE ALL THE MORE APPROPRIATE NOW.

3. SOMMER WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CALL ON DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN, AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO STAY OVER UNTIL APRIL 24 IN ORDER TO MAKE THAT CALL (AND OF COURSE TO SEE THE PRESIDENT).

4. AS FOR THE OTHER OFFICIALS, SOMMER WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF THE DEPARTMENT COULD TRY FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH THE FOLLOWING, MOST OF WHOM HE KNOWS PERSONALLY: JOHN
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NEWHOUSE, LESLIE GELB, ANTHONY LAKE, MARSHALL SHULMAN, DAVID ANDERSON, RICHARD HOLBROOKE, GERARD SMITH OR JOSEPH NYE, AND ALFRED ATHERTON. AT THE WHITE HOUSE, HE WOULD HOPE TO SEE HENRY OWEN AND DAVID AARON, AT DOD, DAVID MCGIFFERT.

5. AS FOR THEMES, MR. SOMMER IS INTERESTED IN LEARNING

WASHINGTON THINKING ON THE TOPICAL ISSUES OF THE DAY (I.E., U.S. MILITARY, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRATEGY, CIVILIAN NUCLEAR POLICY, U. S. RELATIONS WITH EUROPE, THE SOVIET UNION, ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST). ESSENTIALLY, WHAT HE WANTS TO DO IS TO GAIN A PICTURE OF THE UNITED STATES THAT HE CAN PRESENT TO THE READERS OF "DIE ZEIT" IN ORDER TO GIVE THEM A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHERE THE U. S. IS GOING AND HOW IT SEES THE WORLD.

6. SOMMER WILL BE FREE IN WASHINGTON ALL DAY MONDAY THE 17TH AND TUESDAY THE 18TH (HE LUNCHESES ON TUESDAY AT WOODROW WILSON CENTER). HE WOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE WEDNESDAY MORNING AND THURSDAY UNTIL 2:00 P.M.

7. IN THE ABSENCE OF MR. SCHILLER, WE HAVE ASKED MR. SOMMER TO CALL EUR/CE - MR. WOESSNER -- MONDAY A.M. STOESEL

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